



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/853,940	05/10/2001	Peter J. Janssen	US 010236	6838

24737 7590 04/24/2003

PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NORTH AMERICAN CORP
580 WHITE PLAINS RD
TARRYTOWN, NY 10591

EXAMINER

ABDULSELAM, ABBAS I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2674

DATE MAILED: 04/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/853,940

Applicant(s)

JANSSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Abbas I Abdulsalam

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rindal (USPN 6456281) in view of Van Haaren et al. (USPN 5347393).

Regarding claims 1, 8 and 12, Rindal teaches a matrix display device (200) including MxN addressable elements, or pixels (250) driven by two drivers (210r, 210c) whose signals are fed with display conductors (240). Rindal discloses that the drivers generate signals controlled by the control unit (205) and shows the details of the display device (200), arranged in a rectangular format containing N electrically conductive lines (270), columns; and M electrically conductive lines, (260) rows. See col. 6, lines 37-63 and Fig 2. Rindal teaches that the display elements may be of various types including Liquid crystal cells and shows the breaking of the column conductor (770) and display conductor (740) into a number of sub-cell units. Col. 1, lines 23-30 and Fig 27. In addition, Rindal teaches a load driver (715) in terms of the display conductor and the column conductor and also teaches a voltage differential that must be driven on the column conductors to activate the display pixels. See Fig 24 and col. 19, lines 9-29. Rindal does not disclose a partitioning means dividing the LCD column into a plurality of partitions. Van Haaren on the other hand electro-optical display device with row and column electrodes, the column

Art Unit: 2674

electrode (102) being divided into sub-electrodes (10a, 102b, a02c, 102d). See col. 4, lines 44-57 and Fig 1. Furthermore, Van Haaren shows column divisions with respect to the number of gray scale stages (N) expressed for different values in terms various possible column subdivisions scenarios. See Table (1-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Rindal's matrix display device to include Van Haaren's technique of dividing a column electrode into sub-electrodes. One would have been motivated in view of the suggestion in Van Haaren that a column electrode being divided into sub-electrodes is equivalent to the desired column being partitioned. The use of dividing a column electrode into sub-electrodes helps function a matrix display system as taught by Van Haaren.

Regarding claims 2 and 14, Rindal teaches that each row (760) may be tapped off of a display conductor (840) which was driven at each end by a display driver (805) and (810). See Fig 23.

Regarding claims 3-4, 15-16, 17 and 19, Rindal teaches the row-coupled pixels which are driven by multiple row drivers (DX1, DX2), coupled respectively plural ends of the row conductive element (2200). See Fig 13 and col. 11, lines 48-50.

Regarding claims 5, 13 and 20, Rindal teaches the use of display conductor (740) with respect to the selection of row and the driving of new pulse train in parallel on columns (1080). See Fig 28.

Regarding claims 6-7 and 18, Rindal teaches a breaking of the column conductor (770) and the display conductor (740) into a number of sub-cells. See Fig 27.

Art Unit: 2674

Regarding claim 9, Rindal teaches the use of a load driver (715) and memory (VRAM) with respect to the display system. See Fig 24.

Regarding claim 10, Rindal teaches enabling pixels by activating a plurality of row and column drivers in a sequential manner. Col. 2, lines 28-30.

Regarding claim 11, Rindal teaches the method of calculating current required with respect to drivers (715, 725) within the constraints of the display timing. See col. 22, lines 13-16.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered to applicant's disclosure.

The following arts are cited for further reference.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,485,293 to Roninder

U.S. Pat. No. 6,184,620 Mori et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,489,722 to Yoshida et al.

Art Unit: 2674

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Abbas Abdulsalam** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-8591**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard Hjerpe**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4709**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

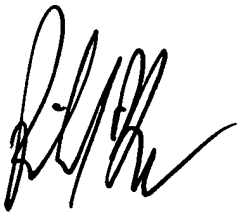
Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology center 2600 customer Service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Abbas Abdulsalam

Examiner

Art Unit 2674



RICHARD HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600